

Hancock Co. is back in business

The Hancock Chamber is back, and helping area businesses recover. Page 2

The Sea Coast Echo

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VOL. 114, NO. 74

BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

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ONE SECTION, 16 PAGES

75 CENTS

Life in Tent City

Contact us at the Echo

Call us at our voice messaging system, 228-467-5474; or directly by cell phone: Randy Ponder, 256-504-0814; Geoff Belcher, 228-332-0257; Bennie Shallbetter, 228-332-0255; John Few, 228-216-6272; or Jace Ponder, 228-332-0027.

Volunteers for tree removal

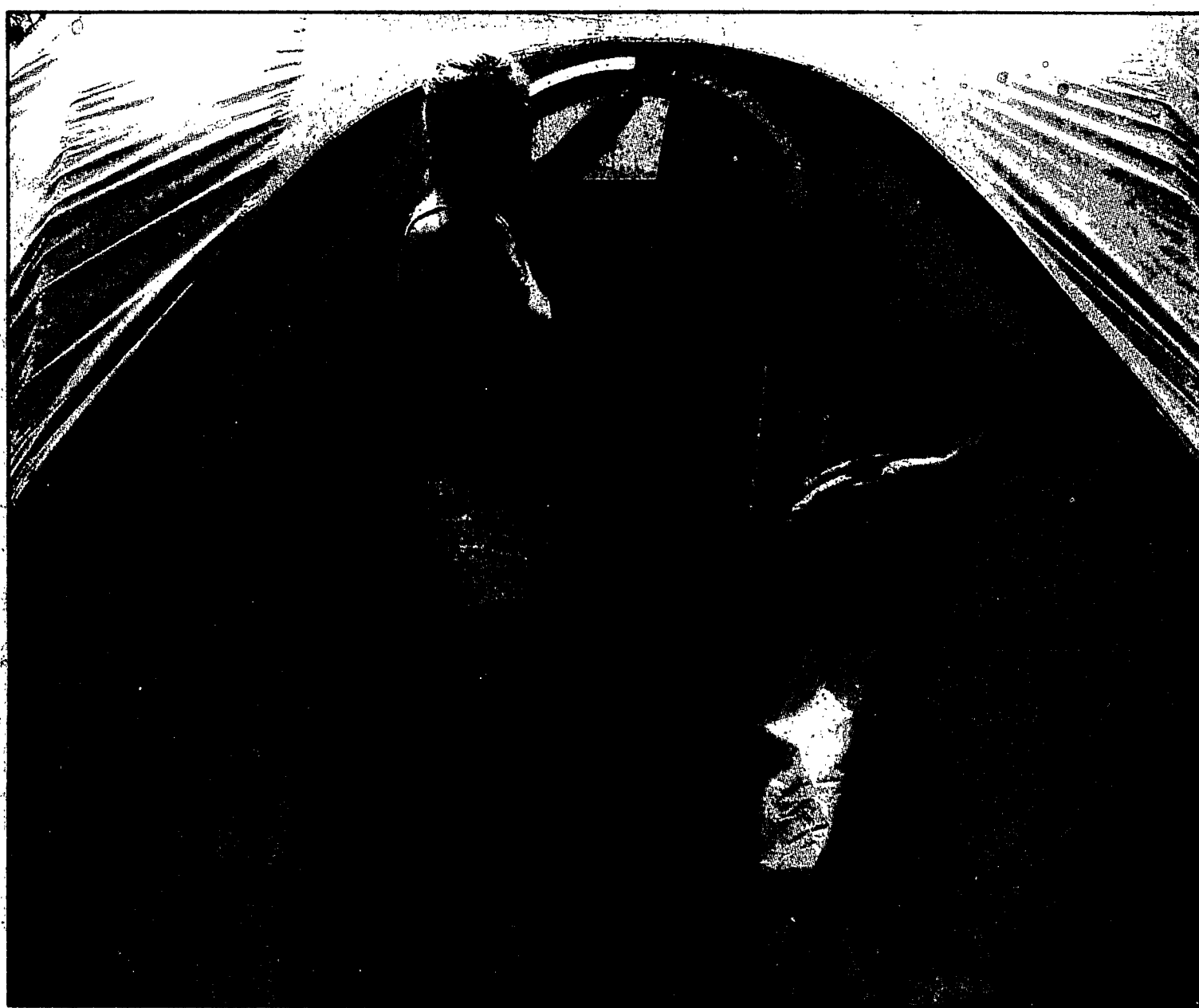
Volunteers are available to help cut, but not haul, downed trees. If you need this service call the Emergency Operations Center at 228-466-8210.

SBA grants available now

Grant dollars may be available through the Small Business Administration to help small businesses reopen. Apply through FEMA at 1-800-621-FEMA.

Temporary housing

Application for FEMA temporary housing such as camper trailers can be made at FEMA's site at the skate park behind Daddy O's in Waveland, next to Hudsons. Residents are occupying more homes at a number of sites as installation of utilities continues.



Melissa Macuick stands at the door of the tent issued to her for temporary shelter after Hurricane Katrina. She and her family have applied for a FEMA trailer, and were told they were put on a special-needs "fast track" on Sept. 8, but as of Wednesday, had received no further word.



Hancock family endures after hurricane destroys home

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Melissa Macuick says she isn't looking for any special treatment for herself and her family, her partner Shawn Coker and his daughter Kayla. After nearly a month, she is just looking for a place to live other than in a tent in their field. Somewhere she can get ready for work without the sweat pouring down her face, she says.

The family lost everything when their mobile home was destroyed by a tornado, picked up and set down again, just about ripping the home in half and spilling out the contents. The family lived in the field without cover for a few days until someone gave them a tarp.

Just recently they were given a tent at the emergency operations center after a traumatic visit there, Macuick said. The woman I tried to get help from there was very cold and uncaring, she said.

"I was told to go there to inquire about a FEMA trailer and when I got there the person that I asked for help told me

TENT-PAGE 9

Edmond Fahey
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HANCOCK
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HMC 'operating' at full speed after Hurricane Katrina

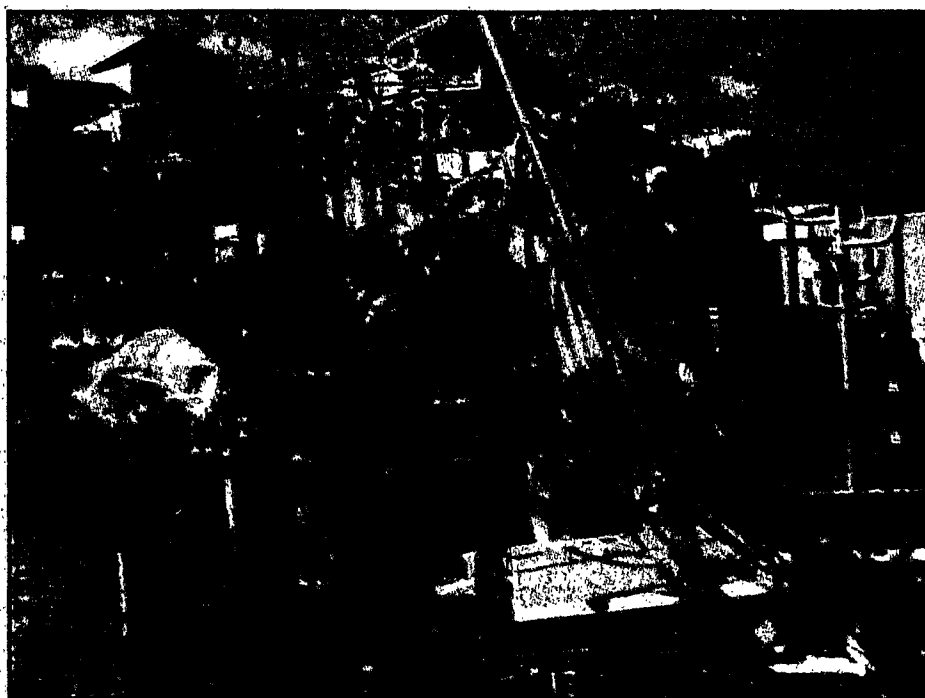
BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Hancock Medical Center, or at least part of it should be up and running early next week, Monday, in fact, hospital administrator Hal Leftwich says, give or take a day. The

first branch of the hospital to open will be the emergency room, said Leftwich, with a plan to open the rest of the hospital in phases.

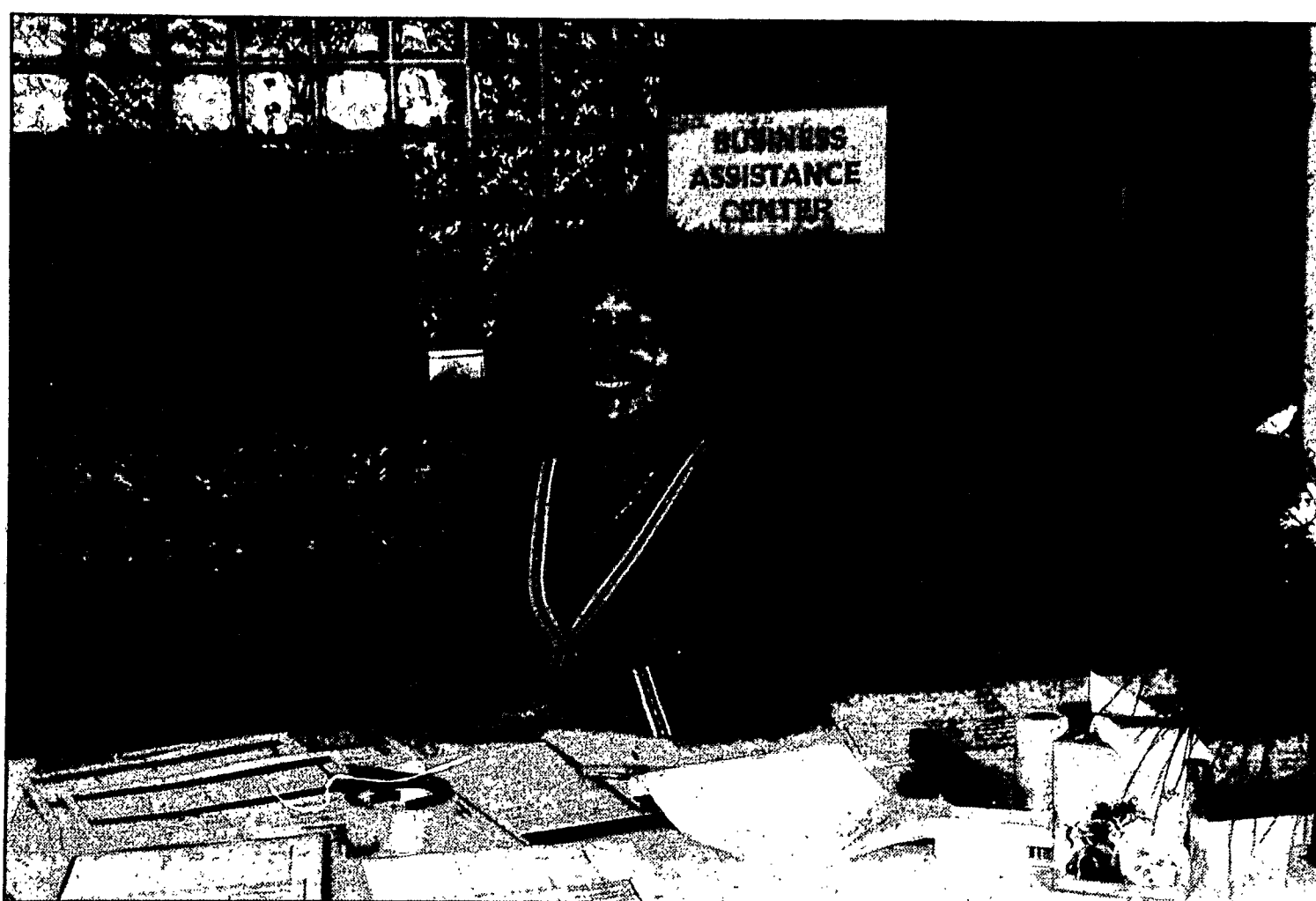
It will take a while to get x-ray and other equip-

OPERATING-PAGE 6



Medical instruments are stacked outside of Hancock Medical Center after Hurricane Katrina filled most of the first floor of the hospital with water.

Echo staff photo by Bennie Shallbetter



Hancock Chamber Director Tish Haas-Williams at the Small Business Assistance Center set up at the Coast Electric Meeting Room in Bay St. Louis.

Businesses returning in Hancock County

Chamber of Commerce hosts "Business After Hours" Thursday

One month after Hurricane Katrina, Hancock County business owners are working hard to reopen.

The Hancock County Chamber of Commerce is now operating a Business Assistance Center with support from Coast Electric Power Association, the City of Bay St. Louis, City of Waveland and Hancock County Board of Supervisors. The Center, which is located at the Coast Electric Conference Center at the corner of Highway 90 and Main Street in Bay St. Louis, provides a myriad of services to local businesses.

Local businesses are invited to stop by for a tour of the center during the first weekly "Business After Hours" event at the Center from 5 to 7 p.m. starting this Thursday, September 29.

The gathering provides an opportunity for the Hancock County business community to connect business to business and with the myriad of services offered:

- Copiers, fax machines, and computers with wireless Internet access.

- A U.S. Small Business Administration desk where business owners can file applications for disaster loans.

- Information on the proposed Mississippi Bridge Loan Program through the Mississippi Development Authority;

- Trained counselors

provide assistance through the Mississippi Small Business Development Center;

- A Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District desk where business owners can obtain information about other loan programs.

The Hancock Chamber and Business Assistance Center hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

The Hancock Chamber is a voluntary organization of 450 businesses representing more than 10,000 employees. The mission of the Chamber is to promote the social, civic and economic well-being of Hancock County.

For more information, 228-467-9020. Or, contact Tish Williams at tish@hancockchamber.org.

Staff at the Center are also:

- Monitoring legislation being introduced in Congress by U.S. Representative Gene Taylor that would allow property owners not currently enrolled in the National Flood Insurance Program eligible for coverage if they purchase 10 years of retroactive insurance and agree to continue to buy flood insurance.

- Monitoring anticipated legislation in a special session of the Mississippi State Legislature called by Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour that would approve interest-free six-month bridge loans to business owners while they await their

SBA funds.

- Identifying needs of area businesses and tracking donations.

- Creating a weekly newsletter that will keep businesses up to date on local business-related news.

- Planning a Business and Industry Expo that will take place when more businesses are in the process of reopening.

The Chamber's Business Assistance partners include Bell South, Coast Electric Power Association, City of Bay St. Louis, City of Waveland, Hancock County Board of Supervisors, MS Development Authority, FEMA Community Relations, MS Contract Procurement Center, MS Department of Employment Security, MS Small Business Development Centers, MS Economic Council, Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District, and US Small Business Administration's Disaster Assistance Office (SBA).

For more information, please contact the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce by phone at 228-467-9033 or 228-467-9020, by fax at 228-467-6033, on the Internet at www.hancockchamber.org or www.mississippi.org, or in person at the Coast Electric Conference Center at the corner of Highway 90 and Main Street in Bay St. Louis from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Thank You



The Sea Coast Echo sends a heart felt thank you to all who have helped in the aftermath of Katrina. Your assistance has been vital in our recovery.

Hancock Medical Center Outpatient Rehab Center

Shepherd Square in Diamondhead will reopen for business

October 3, 2005

physical therapy services available by appointment

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Local physicians will be seeing patients at our multispecialty clinic also at this location.

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Calling all artists!!!

In the wake of the hurricane, efforts are underway to find the 200 plus visual artists, sculptors, writers, poets, musicians and performing artists who make up the local art community.

Gwen Impson, president of The Arts, Hancock County, explains that its much

easier for an entity such as the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum to report losses than for individual artists.

Flyers are being distributed to try and reach local artists to ascertain the same results.

For more information, contact Gwen Impson on her cell phone at 228-

263-6530.

Second Saturday to return Oct. 8

Second Saturday is slated for October 8 from 4 to 8 p.m. Jessie and Carrie will be performing at Clay Creations, 220 Main St.

Red Cross, Blue Dog



Echo staff photos by Randy Ponder
Congressman Gene Taylor, left met with American Red Cross Executive Vice President R. Alan McCurry, third from left, Sunday morning at Kody's Junction just north of Kiln. Taylor wanted to know why there such a small presence of the Red Cross in Hancock County. McCurry promised a much larger response very quickly. With Taylor were spokesman Beau Gex, right, and staffer Paula Delcambre. Along with McCurry was Laura Howe, Southeastern spokesperson for the American Red Cross.

Corps of Engineers guidelines for repair, dredging after Katrina

Emergency permitting guidance for the repair and replacement of structures and dredge or fill projects associated with damage from Hurricane Katrina

The people living within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Mobile District, south of the Tennessee Divide and east of the Pearl River watershed, need to check their original U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit for repairing or replacing serviceable structures destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

Under existing Nationwide Permit Number (NWP) 3, Corps approval is granted to repair and replace structures that were previously permitted.

In certain circumstances, dredging or filling shorelines, lots or previously-authorized fills on lots eroded by Hurricane Katrina may be authorized under NWP 3 or 18. Removal of vessels or storm debris

from wetlands may be authorized under NWP 22. Dredging to restore navigable access to previously authorized marinas may be authorized under NWP 35. However, you must contact the Mobile District Regulatory Division at (251) 694-3776 prior to starting work to ensure the activity meets the requirements of the NWP authorization.

For those actions outside the scope of the NWP program, the following procedures will be used:

A. Emergency permitting requests will be reviewed to determine if an emergency situation does exist. An emergency is a situation that will result in a hazard to life or significant loss of property. An emergency can also be an immediate, unforeseen, significant economic hardship that requires a Corps permit to take corrective action but the situation cannot wait for the normal permit evaluation

process.

B. If the Corps' tentative determination is that the proposed action is an emergency, descriptions of the proposed action will be faxed to representatives of each of the commenting federal agencies, as well as the state agencies responsible for Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone Management Consistency.

C. A decision will be made by the Corps after review by the agencies. For most projects, it is anticipated that agency coordination will be completed within 24-48 hours.

All requests for emergency evaluation procedures should be directed to the Mobile District,

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, P.O. Box 2288, Mobile, AL 36628-0001.

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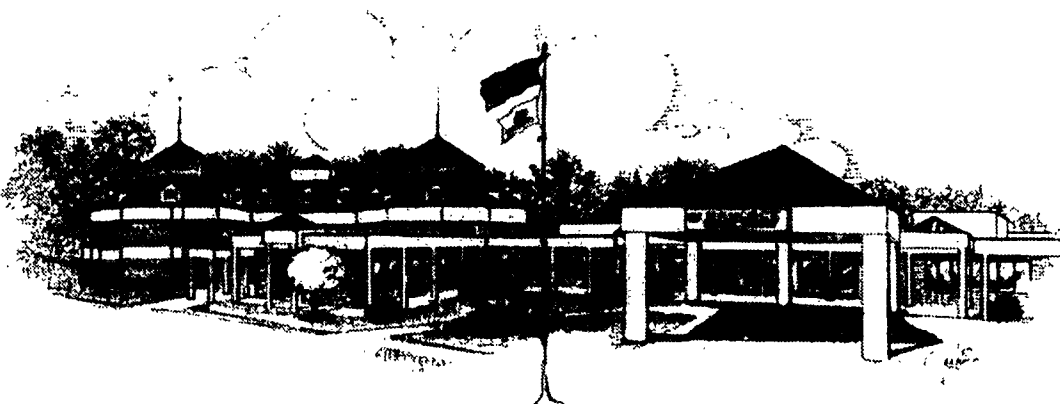
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TO OUR PATIENTS AND FRIENDS

Hancock Medical Center's Board of Trustees, employees, physicians and volunteers join us in our resolve to provide the community with top notch medical care. Hurricane Katrina may have taken a toll on our hospital, but it strengthened our resolve to continue to provide the excellent level of care you have come to rely on.

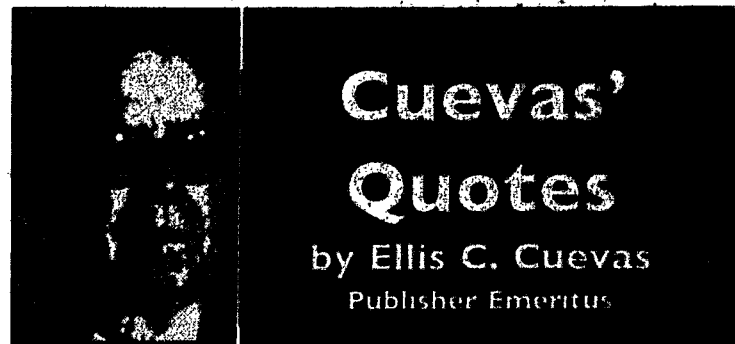
Restoration professionals are replacing walls and flooring damaged by flooding on the first floor of the hospital. Our staff is working tirelessly to open the emergency department with new equipment and furnishings in early October. Other nursing units will follow shortly thereafter.

We are in constant contact with your local physicians. Several are currently seeing patients and others plan to open temporary offices in the near future. Our rural health clinics in Kiln (in the Dollar General parking lot) and Pearlinton (near the entrance to Port Bienville) are open at this time in temporary facilities.

HMC proudly commends the dedication and courage of our employees who continue to work despite tremendous personal losses. It is this spirit that defines our organization, and it is these caregivers and staff members who go above and beyond each day to provide you with the best in health services. Visit our website at www.hmc.org for additional updates.



HANCOCK
MEDICAL CENTER



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

We have a light of hope!

During the darkest of times, a small light can give hope.

The darkest hour in modern history of the Mississippi Gulf Coast was Aug. 29, 2005, the day Hurricane Katrina arrived.

Following Katrina's wrath, our small light was from the folks who flocked to our community from across the nation and even foreign countries.

I have never witnessed such a flow of neighborly love in my life.

ON Tuesday, Sept. 20, I noticed a signal light operating at the intersection of Hwy. 90 and Dunbar. As one of my friends commented, "That signal light is a big light of hope for us."

Lights play an important role in the lives of everyone - even our ancestors.

As a native of the town of Waveland, I can recall the delight of residents when the town's first streetlight on Coleman Ave. was installed.

Then there was the signal light at Beach Blvd. At the Coleman

Ave. Community Pier, even if it only operated for the three months of summer.

The delight in my family was in 1941 when Mississippi Power finally provided power on our street. A light bulb dangling from a cord was a tremendous improvement over our old kerosene lamp.

The carbide lights used by my father and neighbor for frogging before the arrival of six-volt lights was thought to be a great invention.

The wire basket of pine knots my father used for floundering when he was a youngster was upgraded by the kerosene flambeaux when I came along, and later the Coleman lantern.

When the Old Spanish Trail was Hwy. 90 through Hancock County, I remember the signal light at the intersection of Hwy. 90 at Beach Blvd. and Ulman Ave. I do remember a few of my Stanislaus classmates from Pass Christian bragging about how they would control their Hwy. 90

QUOTES--PAGE 5

The Good, The Bad, The Beautiful

Mississippians should be proud of the way we've met Hurricane Katrina's challenges.

Since Katrina, we've seen just about everything this world can offer - a lot of good things, some downright bad sights and some very beautiful people.

The Good: Let's acknowledge the good at every turn.

From the Senate
By U.S. Sen. Trent Lott

Most Americans are good, generous people who help one another.

It's our tradition. Alexis de Tocqueville, the Frenchman who traveled and studied early America, said, "When an American asks for the cooperation of his fellow citizens, it is seldom refused, and I have often seen it afforded spontaneously, and with great good will."

Almost two centuries later, it's still true. In fact, our state regularly is first among the 50 in per capita charitable giving. Individuals, donors, volunteers and

businesses from our state, nation and world continue pouring aid into South Mississippi. We see that in the event of a disaster this terrible, it is individuals and the private sector who respond most effectively.

Some of the world's top companies and many charities and foundations have contributed to the relief effort in some way. But it's the Good Samaritans who have done the most. The faith-based groups have stood out from the crowd. And I'm not talking just about the big multi-national ministries, either. I'm talking about local churches, like Christ

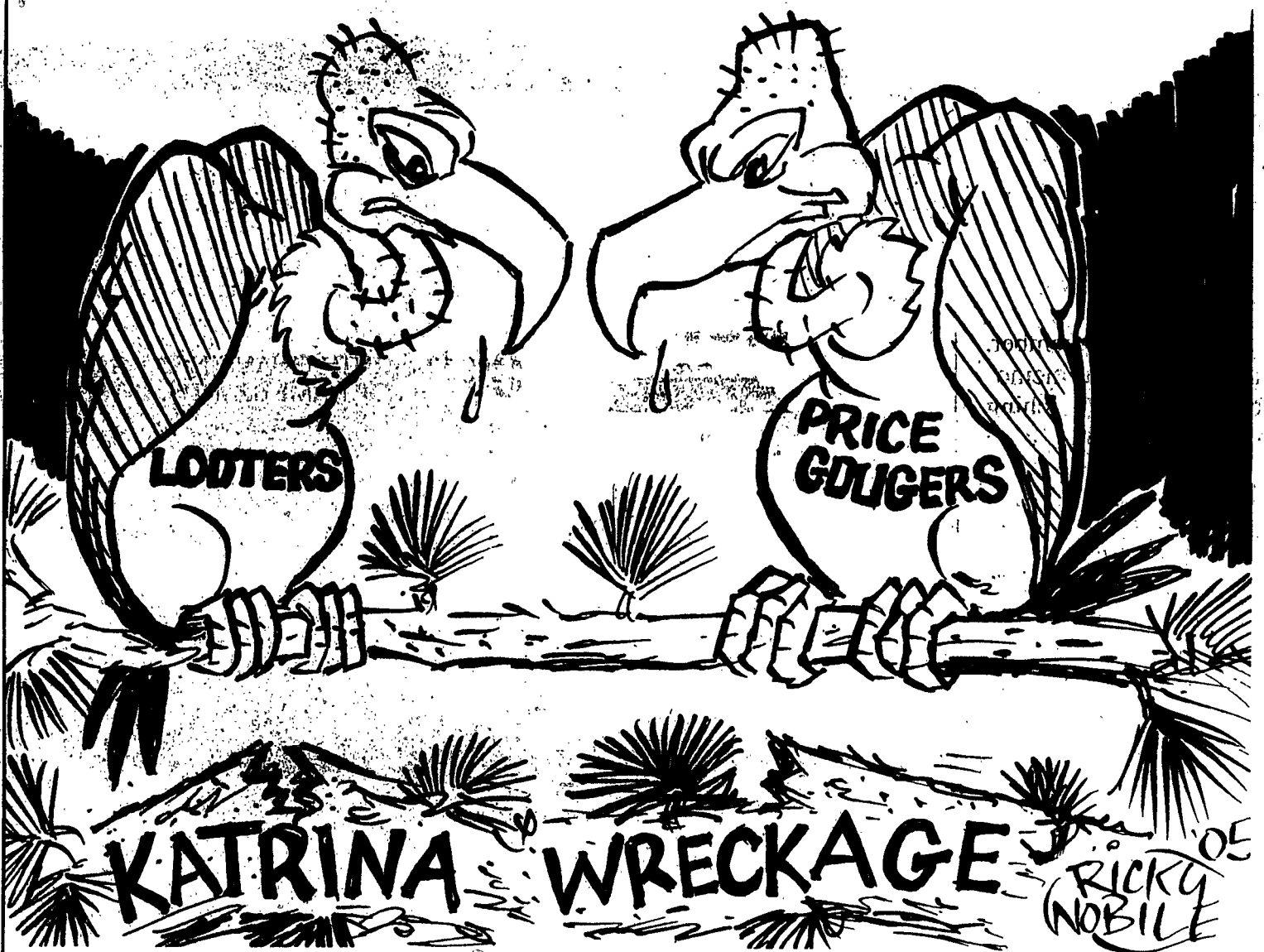
United Methodist Church in Jackson, where my wife Tricia is volunteering. They've been working furiously getting help to folks in need, and I know the same can be said about your church.

Perhaps individuals are making the most difference though. In what's left of my neighborhood, I saw a fellow from Bert, Florida, helping to clear debris. He just came over and started helping people. I didn't catch his name, but he's an example of what's good in America.

The Bad: There's no question that the initial

LOTT--PAGE 5

BIRDS OF A FEATHER



The Sea Coast Echo

USPS 487-100

Published Thursday and Sunday each week at 124 Court Street, Bay St. Louis, MS. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2009, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2009.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Sea Coast Echo, P.O. Box 2009, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2009. Periodical postage paid at Bay St. Louis, MS.

Phone (228) 467-5474



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Hancock County, Pass Christian, Perkinston, Picayune, Long Beach and Service Personnel.....\$45.00 per year
All Other Subscriptions.....\$70.00 per year

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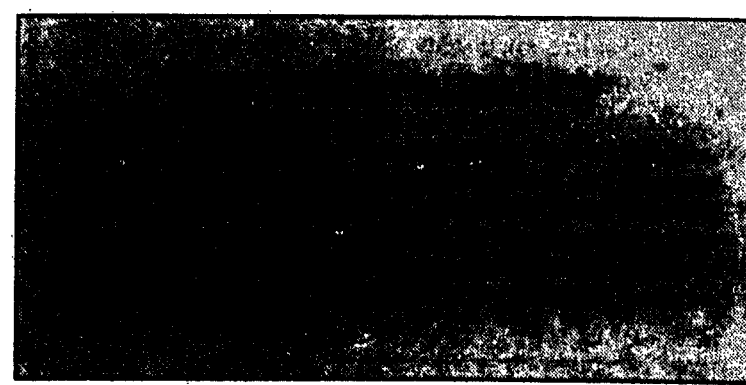
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Please help bring back Bay St. Louis

To the residents of Bay St. Louis and Hancock County:

My name is Tommy Crosslin and I live in Sparta, TN. I was born in Biloxi and my first home was Bay St. Louis. After moving to Tennessee, I would anxiously await the end of school so I could catch the train to Bay St. Louis to spend the summers with my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. N.M. Dick, who both worked for the railroad. Their home on 113 Union St. was magic for me. Being able to see the water from their front porch was overwhelming for a young boy growing up in Tennessee.

Awaiting me when I got off the train was a bowl of fresh figs from the tree in the back yard and a cold Barq's Rootbeer, which at the time could only be purchased on the Coast. I



would spend my days waling what would later be called "Old Town." The mid to late 60's (pre-Camille) in Bay St. Louis were indeed magic. My trips up Beach Blvd. in front of St. Stanislaus to the Star Theatre and then across the street afterward for a snowcone were the things dreams were made of, even if I did see the same movie several nights in a row.

Another memory from a teen aged boy were all the beautiful girls of Bay St. Louis. This made such an impression on me that years later, I

would meet a Mississippi girl while in pharmacy school in Birmingham and marry her. She was from the small Jasper County town of Louin and to my great fortune, only a couple of hours from the Coast.

As our three children grew up, we would make frequent trips to Bay St. Louis and share the magic of the town with them. Our children grew up to love the Bay as I had, and each trip to the grandparents came complete with a request to go to your beautiful town. I was only too glad to oblige. The most recent

of these trips was for our middle son and his girlfriend over this past Memorial Day weekend. We went to church at Our Lady of the Gulf, stopped by St. Stanislaus for pictures with the church in the background and then to Trapani's for a pobo. Shortly after we returned to Tennessee they announced their engagement. I joked that the trip to Bay St. Louis sealed the deal. Your beautiful town had once again worked its magic. Our first son, who is now in medical school at Ohio State, married his college girlfriend after a similar trip; so the magic struck twice.

When I lost my brother in a car wreck in 2001. My parents wanted his memory to live forever. It didn't take them long to decide the place for a scholarship in his memo-

LETTERS--PAGE 5

Lott -- good, bad & ugly

Continued from Page 4

federal response to this hurricane was bad, hampered by missteps and red tape. So let's candidly acknowledge that and change the bad. What we're trying to do in Congress is displace bureaucracy and status quo thinking with clear, common-sense approaches.

We're passing legislation geared specifically toward the relief and recovery - tax relief for victims, incentives for businesses to hire people in the disaster zone, protections for relief workers from frivolous lawsuits or unreasonable liability. All these things are geared toward creating a new approach toward disaster relief - one that

says "yes" to human needs whenever possible, and reserves "no" only for things obviously suspect.

We're trying to get folks back to work by waiving bureaucratic regulations or rules whenever possible - not because we necessarily want to do away with standards, but because we have to be flexible. To ensure we have, not just a recovery, but a renaissance, we've got to scrap the status quo and think boldly, unhampered by pre-Katrina conventional approaches.

The Beautiful: Admittedly, from a physical standpoint, outside of those eternal live oak trees, there's not much

beauty along the coast right now. It looks like a mangled mess. But from a human standpoint, it's more beautiful than ever. That's right. Our people are resilient, resolute and obsessed with once again returning South Mississippi's charm.

A recent headline in The Sun Herald harkened back to John Milton's famous work, Paradise Lost, with a question mark behind it, as if asking whether Mississippi's recent progress and the place we all love will be stunted forever. It won't be stunted; it will be spurred to new heights. Every day we're learning that more and more, the beauty of Mississippi is not really in the things

man does or doesn't do, but in the things God creates, in the hearts of people. It's that inner goodness, the lasting beauty, that abounds throughout Mississippi right now. And, it will always endure.

Senator Lott welcomes any questions or comments about this column. Write to: U.S. Senator Trent Lott, 487 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (Attn: Press Office)

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Letters

Continued from Page 4

ry was St. Stanislaus. The school will remain forever special to us for many reasons.

We were fortunate to meet many special people over the years that called the Bay their home. Our youngest child and only daughter, took her best friend on vacation with us 4 years ago to experience the magic of your town. We went to the Dock of the Bay to eat and met Jerry Fisher, a very kind and likable man who granted my request for a photo op. Being a Blood, Sweat, and Tears fan growing up, I experienced the magic again by meeting a band member. I still cherish the memories of that trip. Watching my youngest child fall in love with the same town I loved as a child and adult.

My family met and befriended Charles Gray of the historical society. It has been from Charles that I have received the most information regarding the damage to the town. Charles confirmed my fears that many of the lovely buildings, including the Bay Town Inn were now gone. I just received a nice e-mail from the owner, Nikki, telling us the Inn was gone, but the spirit of the town was stronger. Her words were very uplifting.

From my memories as a child going to the beach, walking the curbs along the sidewalks, watching trains go by, to

memories as an adult sitting on the front porch visiting with our dear friend Dot Phillips, watching my children experience the magic, and tasting the poboys at Trapani's after a beautiful worship service at OLG. No town will ever be as special to me as Bay St. Louis.

When I was talking with our middle son last night and telling him of the widespread damage,

he sighed and said "the magic is gone." But the magic is not within the buildings, it is within the people, the great people that make up your beautiful town. Please know that each and every one of you are in our thoughts and prayers as you work to bring back the magic.

We love you,
Tommy and Karen
Crosslin and family
Sparta, TN



**St. Stanislaus
and
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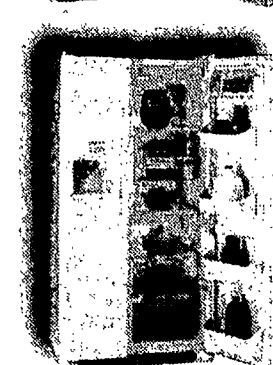
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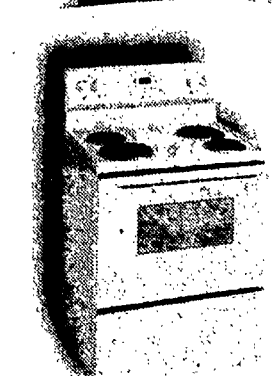
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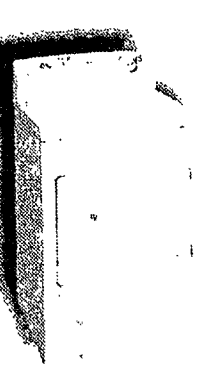
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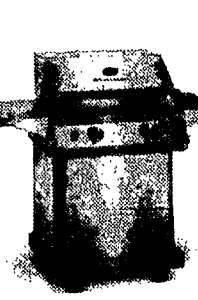
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Features: 5.7 cu. ft. Super Capacity Drum
COLOR: WHITE MSRP \$369

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per month

DISHWASHERS

FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER

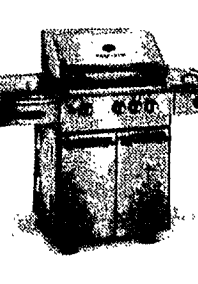
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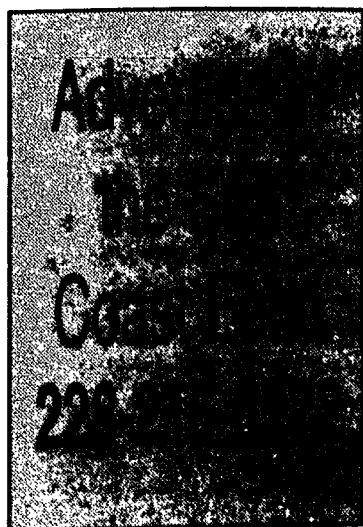
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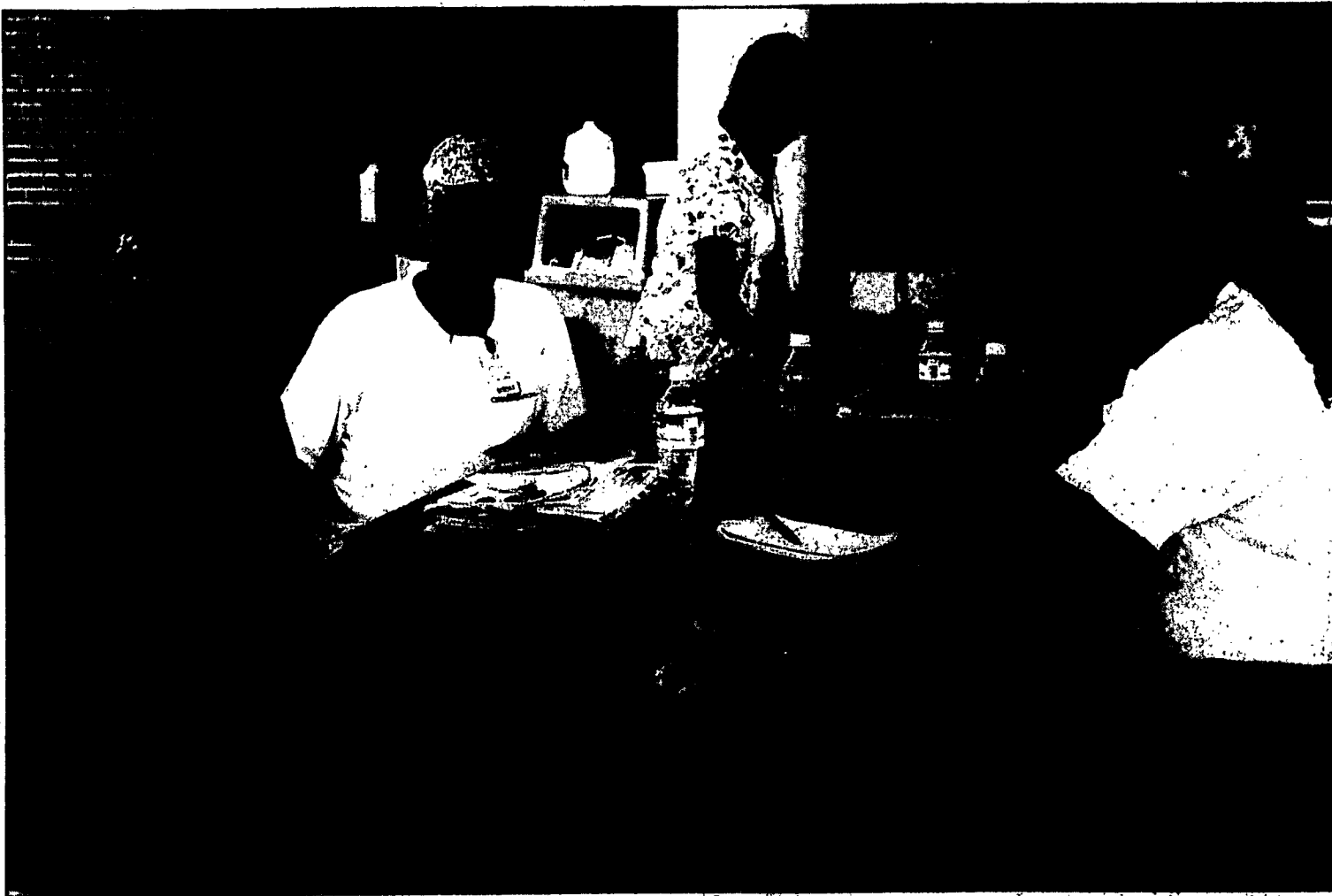
Quotes

Continued from Page 4

signal light to benefit them during the watermelon season.

Lights of hope in 2005 following Katrina are many. We have to keep up the hope as we will be back, greater than ever.





Echo staff photos by Bernie Shalibetter
Mickey Bryant, left, lab director for Hancock Medical Center; maintenance supervisor Buster Thornton; and cardiopulmonary director David Mayfield.

Operating -- HMC

ment, he said, and so for a while there will be limited services. But it is important part of the the community getting back on their feet for the hospital and doctors to get going again, Leftwich believes. By the end of October he hopes that the hospital will again have the nurses stations set up and limited service. Like about 100 other hospital personal and staff Leftwich spent a harrowing couple of days in lock down at the hospital during and immediately following Hurricane Katrina. About 33 patients were in the hospital when the storm hit.

Operating room manager Virginia Kenny said she was almost relaxing when the storm hit, thinking she had nothing to do, when she looked out and saw "an aquarium" coming up outside the windows. You could see blue gills hit the windows and swim by, said maintenance supervisor Buster Thornton.

Sand bags kept the rising tidal surge from getting into the hallways for a short time. Staff made use of that time to move patients to the second floor and then start hauling food up from the cafeteria. All was well until a window broke and let in several feet of water into the downstairs, said Cardiopulmonary director David Mayfield.

For a while the staff would take turns standing at the loading dock door watching for the approaching storm, said Mayfield, but when the rain really began to come down, they had to shut the door. About 4 a.m. gale-force winds began to blow in.

When the brunt of the storm arrived, water came in very quickly and rose to a level of about seven feet outside the windows. The water came up to the tops of the larger pickup trucks parked in the lot, said lab director Mickey Bryant.

Power of course was off and remained off for at least 48 hours till rescue crews began to arrive. Once the storm passed the water was sucked back out just as quickly as it had arrived, leaving fish, eels, and even an alligator turtle in the hospital.



Hal Leftwich, FACHE

Before the water was completely down people begin to arrive at the doors for help, said nurse Michaline Smyth. A common injury were the severe burns that people had from holding on to trees to keep from blowing away, Smyth said.

There was no communication with the outside world at first and no one had a vehicle to get anywhere else, said Bryant. They had all gone under water. It was 48 long hours before help arrived, and during that time the lock down crew took care of almost 800 people with injuries ranging from broken limbs to severe burns.

One woman arrived on a door used as a stretcher. A man arrived using a two by four as a crutch. Another man arrived with a slit radial artery. Dr. Brian Anthony repaired the wound by flashlight, said Mayfield. Patients began to arrive by the truckload. Staff all worked together taking names and social security numbers, said Smyth. Some arrived needing supplies such as oxygen, which was in short supply, and some had to be turned down, Mayfield said.

All of those there in the aftermath worry about what happened to a young boy who arrived at the hospital with no shoes and no shirt. They saw him running across debris piles at a dead run, said Kenny. He said he thought his father had had a heart attack and that there was something wrong with his mother. Before anyone could help, the boy disappeared again, Kenny said.

During that first 48 hours when two helicopters were spotted overhead, the staff thought that help had arrived and patients would be airlifted to safety. But the helicopters were not picking up patients, they were dropping them off from search and rescue missions.

After that, help arrived in the form of Disaster Medical Assistance Teams. In the first 36 hours, Leftwich said, the team treated another 1,000 patients. By Thursday the hospital's in patients were transferred to hospitals in

Florida, Hattiesburg, Jackson and Mobile.

Once help arrived those left at the hospital began to look around and assess the damage. It was extensive, with million dollar pieces of equipment corroded by salt water. Microfilm and x-rays were also lost to the salt water, but luckily only about ten percent of hospital records were permanently lost, said Leftwich. And the building itself held up remarkably well. The hospital is in a 500 year flood plain, Leftwich said.

"I hope none of us ever has to experience anything like this again," he said.

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Mississippi Emergency Management Agency:

601-352-9100

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

1-800-311-3435

American Red Cross:

1-866-GET-INFO (1-866-438-4636)

Mississippi Department of Health:

General information:
1-866-HLTHY4U (1-866-458-4948)

Epidemiology reporting line:

1-800-556-0003

West Nile virus Hotline:

877-978-6453

Mississippi Department of Health District Offices:

(As phone service is restored statewide)
District One: (662) 563-5603

Coahoma, Desoto, Grenada, Lee, Panola, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica, Quitman, Yalobusha

District Two: (662) 841-9015

Alcorn, Benton, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Marshall, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Tippah, Tishomingo, Union

District Three: (662) 453-4563

Attala, Bolivar, Carroll, Holmes, Humphreys, Leflore, Montgomery, Sunflower, Washington

District Four: (662) 323-7313

Calhoun, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clay, Lowndes, Monroe, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Webster, Winston

District Five: (601) 978-7864

Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds, Issaquena, Madison, Rankin, Sharkey, Simpson, Yazoo, Warren

District Six: (601) 482-3171

Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, Smith

District Seven: (601) 684-9411

Adams, Amite, Jefferson, Franklin, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike, Walthall, Wilkinson

District Eight: (601) 544-6766

Covington, Forrest, Greene, Jefferson Davis, Jones, Lamar, Marion, Perry, Wayne

District Nine: (228) 831-5151

George, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, Stone

Additional resources for locating loved ones:

National Next of Kin Registry: 1-360-739-7206

American Red Cross: 1-877-LOVED-IS (1-877-568-3317)

Resource numbers for those who wish to help in the relief effort

To make donations:

American Red Cross:

1-800-HELP-NOW (1-800-435-7669)

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency Donation Hotline:

601-360-0861 or 1-866-230-8906

Salvation Army:

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During this trying process, we are here for you. We can assist you with tax and insurance loss calculations, loan applications and any other matters pertaining to the recovery process. All tax returns and tax payments, including quarterly estimated taxes, that are due after August 29, 2005 are extended until January 3, 2006. A link to the IRS' website is available on our website at www.moorepowell.com.

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We wish to express our heartfelt sympathy to all who have suffered losses as a result of this unprecedented disaster. Our thoughts and prayers are with each and every one of you.

Real Estate Commission

Real Estate Examinations were held for the month of August

Land Bank now open at 2 branches

The Land Bank Association of South Mississippi is preparing to help borrowers who have been impacted by Hurricane Katrina. As of noon on Friday, Sept. 2, the association had five branch offices open, but the Hattiesburg and Poplarville offices remained closed. Many offices are still without phone and/or computer network service.

"Phone service in our offices is intermittent right now, but our borrowers can call any of our five operating offices to get help," said Jessie Purvis, the Land Bank's interim chief executive officer.

Customers are urged to call any of the association's branch offices for service if they cannot reach their local office. The main office in Jackson can be reached at either (800) 449-5742 or (601) 355-8500.

The association is affiliated with the Farm Credit Bank of Texas, which has donated \$50,000 to the relief efforts, distributed in equal shares to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund and to the Salvation Army.

2005 in Jackson, Mississippi, for those persons desiring to enter the field of Real Estate Sales, Rentals and other related activities.

Six (6) individuals sitting for the Brokers examination successfully completed the requirements and will now become licensed Real Estate Brokers. Forty two (42) individuals sitting for the Salespersons examination successfully completed the

requirements and will now be awarded the Salesperson License.

The examination consist of 100 questions prepared by the American College Testing Services (ACT) for Real Estate License Law Officials across the United States and Canada. Applicants are questioned concerning the Mississippi Real Estate Law and Rules and Regulations governing their activities in that vocation.

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We appreciate the patience our members have displayed. Together, we have the power to rebuild.



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Rotary meets FEMA



Dr. Kim Staany, Superintendent of Bay-Waveland School District (top photo, left), hands out MREs, meals-ready-to-eat, as Bay St. Louis Rotary President Regan Kane, center, and Hancock Chancery Clerk Tim Kellar prepare to help. The Rotary Club is meeting at Main St. Methodist Church at noon on Wednesdays. About 30 people (photo at left) attended the meeting yesterday to hear Hancock County FEMA coordinator Eric Gentry, far right, speak. Gentry said 4400 affordable housing units have been issued thus far in the state, 1,200 in Hancock County.

Echo staff photos by Jace Ponder

Public debris pick-up

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Public officials from around the county gathered Monday to discuss a touchy matter, the cleanup of debris on private property. FEMA representative David Schmit was on hand to give advice on the cleanup effort.

Preliminary plans call for the removal of debris on private property all across the county, targeting a number of heavy debris fields identified by air surveillance. These are areas where most of the homes have been completely destroyed.

Schmit suggested that officials advertise their intent to begin a cleanup any way possible, and make every reasonable effort to contact property owners. Schmit also suggested that county residents be given a central point to come to to fill out right of entry forms for the cleanup. Tax records, and advertisements would be used to locate owners.

After a certain time, that people would have to come retrieve personal belongings they may want, a cleanup would begin all over the county. Many communities have already started the

process of removal of debris from personal property. D'Iberville, Gulfport and Harrison County gave residents 10 days to collect their belongings. Setting up a call center for questions, making sure that people are aware of a start date for the cleanup and taking into account historical sites are important components of the process, Schmit said. The county will also need to have Hazardous Material teams on call and a plan to deal with human remains in debris piles.

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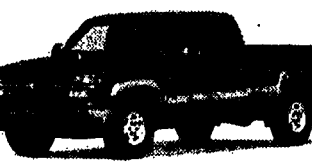
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Picayune, Ms.



Echo staff photos by Bennie Shallbetter
The remains of the Macuick family home, which was hit by a tornado during Katrina.

Tent -- after the storm

Continued from Page 1

she didn't know anything," Macuick said. "She gave me the tent which I am grateful for. I call it the condo."

The family has been trying to get help from FEMA since September 5, Macuick said. She has documented all the times and all the people that she has talked to along the way, she says, while looking through a carefully kept notebook.

◦ The family has done a remarkable job of "making do." They have set up a washer that was saved in the yard, and they tore the tub out of the trailer and set it up with a shower curtain all around using a hose for a shower, a garden tub, Macuick says. If it weren't for the nonstop insect attacks and the stifling heat the place just might be livable.

For now they have had to send Kayla to a relative's house to live because she was being eaten up by mosquitoes, chiggers and fleas. But they don't like having to live apart from her and want a home for her to come back to, Macuick said.

As of Monday, the family had not even received their initial \$2,000 worth of aid money from FEMA. It was re-routed once because FEMA made a mistake with Macuick's account number and the bank sent it back. That was September 8. Macuick said that FEMA told her that they would be unable to assist her unless they could contact

her by phone; so she got a phone and continued to call them.

In the middle of September an inspector came out and told her the family was definitely a candidate for housing, she said. But as of Monday, there was still no word on that either.

While waiting for her tent, Macuick was crying and a local official who does not wish to be named stopped to talk to her, Macuick said. That was the only person who really showed concern for her family, she said. He promised to help and she believes he will.

Now, Macuick says, she has other questions about the relief efforts because of her own family's problems. One of the

problems, she encountered, she says was a lack of drivers to deliver trailers.

"We have a lot of men in the county with trucks, they know the county, and they need work," said Macuick.

So why did FEMA hire a lot of out of state contractors to deliver the trailers. When she asked FEMA the question she was given a number to call, but never got a call back. She'll keep asking though and with her persistence, she will likely get answers, but Macuick wonders, what will happen to people who are not able to follow up with all the phone calls and visits she has had to make so far, just to get a tent?

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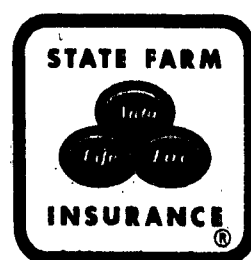
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Sports

Tigers tip Bearcats 21-19; show heart amidst chaos

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

Hurricane Katrina happened almost a month ago and her wake of destruction is still evident and felt across the Bay-Waveland and Hancock county communities; however, for a brief moment on Monday, September 26th, there was a respite from the chaos caused by this storm.

The Bay High Tigers (2-0) held on for a 21-19 thrilling win over the visiting Long Beach Bearcats in Division 8-4A action. It was a true community showing by both teams with fans packed into the stands to watch the resurgence of high school football since Katrina came ashore.

The Tigers jumped out to a 7-0 lead on their first offensive possession following a 16-play drive that culminated in a 7-yard scoring run by Robert Labat with 4:25 left in the first quarter. Kyle Moran's PAT split the uprights to make the score 7-0.

The Bearcats took their first drive into Bay High territory before Destin Johnson, Trevor Adam, Jason Sims and company decided otherwise. Johnson, the sophomore man-child, had a huge game for the Tigers on the defensive side of the ball.

Johnson stuffed a Bearcat ballcarrier two yards deep in the backfield one play before Adam Vilalta recovered a loose ball for the Tigers at the Bay High 18 yardline. However, the Tigers fumbled the ball away on their next possession just after getting new life on a roughing the punter call.

Long Beach took advantage of the Tiger mistake going 27 yards in six plays highlighted by Trumaine Brock's 11-yard scoring run with 9:47 left in the second quarter. The PAT was blocked by Johnson who bulldozed his way through the Bearcat line. The score remained 7-6.

The Tigers and the Bearcats each traded away their next two possession highlighted by strong defensive play to end the first half of play with Bay High clinging to a narrow 7-6 lead. The Tiger defense was led by Trevor Adam, Colby Adam, Kyle Moran, Cory Thornton, Teddy Morris and Destin Johnson.

The Tigers opened the

second half with a blast. Colby Adam blew up a Bearcat player on the opening kickoff that forced a loose ball. Brennan Adam recovered the loose ball for the Tigers at the Long Beach 38 yardline.

Three plays later, Bay High quarterback Tyler Brush went to the airwaves and connected with Johnson on a 41-yard scoring strike with 10:41 left in the third quarter. Johnson leapt out of his shoes for the grab and rambled his way into the endzone for the score. Moran's PAT was good making the score 14-6.

The Bearcats had hardly recovered from the previous score when Johnson smoked Brock in the backfield that forced the ball loose. The ball was picked up by Moran and returned 28 yards for the score with 9:54 left in the third quarter. The PAT by Moran made the score 21-6.

The Tigers and the Bearcats swapped fumbled on the next two possessions. The Bearcats took advantage of the Tigers' fumble and used a 15-play drive to cut into the Tiger lead. Brock scored for Long Beach on a 5-yard run with 5:36 left in the fourth quarter. The PAT by Long Beach was no good leaving the score 21-12.

The Bearcats seemed to gain confidence following their second touchdown as Long Beach stuffed the Tigers on three straight plays forcing a Bay High punt.

Long Beach needed only one play to strike anxiety in the hearts of the Tiger faithful. Brock broke six tackles and he criss-crossed the field on the way to a 55-yard scoring run with 3:00 left in regulation. The PAT was good by Long Beach

making the score 21-19.

The Bay High offense was forced into a punting situation on their next possession as the exhaustion was evident with both teams. The Bearcats managed two first downs and drove to the Tiger 48 yardline before Trevor Adam and Jason Sims stopped the Bearcats' final plea for victory with a 6-yard loss.

Bay High Tiger head coach Brendan Compretta stated, "We got every single ounce of energy and heart from our players tonight. I am very proud of the way we played since we have not had any conditioning since the storm. We are still missing several players. The defense played very hard tonight but we still see areas where we can improve. The main area is tackling - we have to get better at tackling. However, we stepped up when we had to make a play. This was a great atmosphere for both communities as this destruction is Coast wide. Long Beach is a very physical team and very well-coached. We played hard enough to win and I am very proud of the players."

Robert Labat led Bay High on the ground with 15 carries for 32 yards including the game's opening touchdown. Destin Johnson had a reception for 41 yards and a score. He was equally impressive on the defensive side with seven tackles, one forced fumble, one blocked PAT and three tackles for loss. Trevor Adam had 10 total tackles while Kyle Moran had seven tackles and a fumble recovery for a touchdown. Cory Thornton added six tackles in the win.

Senior linebacker Trevor Adam recalled the first game back from the storm, "This was a lot of

hard work to get back to this field. Big players step up and make big plays. We had several members of this team tonight step up and do that. We are not concerned with who gets the credit because the only way we know that we will achieve our goals is for all 11 players to do their job."

Bay High is idle on Friday, September 30th but returns to action the following week at home against Poplarville.

While the game was a win for Bay High, it was also a win for the Bay-Waveland area, Hancock County, and Long Beach. So much of what we had knows prior to the storm is gone forever. This was an opportunity for a sense of normalcy amongst the chaos that is swirling around in our lives. It was a great night under the lights for both teams, no matter the outcome.

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Offer ends 1/31/06 and is available in the continental United States for new, first-time DISH Network residential customers. All prices, packages and programming subject to change without notice. Local and state sales taxes may apply. Where applicable, equipment rental fees and programming are taxed separately. All DISH Network programming, and any other services that are provided, are subject to the terms and conditions of the promotional agreement and Residential Customer Agreement, available at www.dishnetwork.com or upon request. Local Channels packages by satellite are only available to customers who reside in the specified local Designated Market Area (DMA). Local channels may require an additional dish antenna or a SuperDISH antenna from DISH Network, installed free of any charges with subscription to local channels at time of initial installation. Social Security Numbers are used to obtain credit scores and will not be released to third parties except for verification and collection purposes only or if required by governmental authorities. All service marks and trademarks belong to their respective owners.

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Sports

Bay nips Long Beach; Johnson & Labat earn top players' honors

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

The Bay High Tigers (2-0) earned a 21-19 win over the Bearcats of Long Beach in the area's first game back following Hurricane Katrina. The game was not only a notch in win column for Bay High, it served as a hint of normalcy for many whose lives have been decimated by the storm.

Robert Labat opened the scoring for the Tigers with a 7-yard run followed by a 41-yard pass from Tyler Brush to Destin Johnson. Kyle Moran jumped on a loose ball forced by Johnson and returned it 28 yards for the score. Moran connected on all three PATs for Bay High.

Trumaine Brock scored all three touchdowns for the Bearcats as he rushed for 159 yards on 22 carries.

The Tigers are idle this Friday but will return to action on October 7th against Poplarville at home.

The Pass Christian Pirates traveled to Poplarville on Monday night but scoring details of the game were not available at press time.

The Hancock Hawks will be in action on Friday night in their first game back since the storm. The Hawks are scheduled to play Pascagoula according to the schedule prior to the storm; however, that information may have changed.

The Rock-a-chaws have since cancelled their season due to the devastation caused by Katrina. Two former Rocks suited up for the Tigers in the game against Long Beach - junior OL Bryce Morreale and sophomore

OL Matt Matranga. Other Rocks displaced are Lance Cuevas (Fairhope, AL), J C Brignone (Parkview, GA), Josh and Jeremiah Morgan, Sylvester Twiggs, and Trevor Gex (St. Benedict Academy, Cordova, TN).

The Offensive Player of the Week for Week #2 is Bay High running back Robert Labat who scored the first touchdown against Long Beach. He finished with 32 yards on 15 carries in his first game as a running back. Normally, Labat lines up as a receiver for the Tigers. The Defensive Player of the Week is Bay High's Destin Johnson. The sophomore man-child recorded seven tackles, one forced fumble, one blocked PAT and two tackles for loss. He also had a scoring reception for 41 yards from Tyler Brush.

Former Rock Brignone commits to MS State

BY JOSEPH W. GEX, II
Staff Writer

Former St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaw defensive lineman J C Brignone verbally committed to play football for the Mississippi State University Bulldogs of the Southeastern Conference on Monday, September 26th.

Brignone, who was displaced by Hurricane Katrina, now plays for

Parkview High School in suburban Atlanta. In one game with the Rocks this season, Brignone recorded 12 total tackles and one sack in a 20-12 win over Wilkinson County on August 26th. He is currently playing defensive line for Parkview but current stats are not available.

Entering the season, Brignone was considered by many to be the top

defensive lineman in the state of Mississippi and was the #2 recruit in South Mississippi behind Ocean Springs' All-American tight end Richard Dickson.

While at SSC, Brignone was a three-year letter winner in football and powerlifting. He is a two-time All-Sea Coast Echo honoree and tallied 53 total tackles for the Rocks in 2004.

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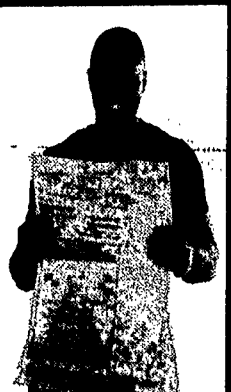
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NURSES / SOCIAL WORKERS NEEDED! If you're looking for a way to help Hurricane Katrina victims there is currently a critical need for nursing professionals and social workers. If you are a Registered Nurse (RN), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), or Social Worker willing to volunteer, please call Red Cross at (571) 226-8221, - 8223 or - 8224.

EMP.-TRUCKING

DELIVER FEMA RV'S FOR PAY! A NATIONAL RV delivery service has immediate needs for qualified contractors to deliver "new" RV trailers from factories and dealers to Hurricane relief sites. This is a great way for you to help the victims. Please log on today: www.horizontransport.com

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If you're looking for a way to help Hurricane Katrina victims, you can make an online donation to the Red Cross' Disaster Relief Fund at www.redcross.org or call 1-800-HELP NOW. There is currently a critical need for nursing professionals and social workers. If you are a Registered Nurse (RN), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), or Social Worker willing to volunteer, please call (571) 226-8221, - 8223 or - 8224.

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Week Of Sept. 25, 2005

Back on Track



Members of the Scott Bridge Co. based out of Opelika, AL, work on the CSX Bridge in Bay St. Louis on Wednesday. The struts are structurally sound, but all the concrete girders have been washed away. According to company officials, the work should be completed within four months.

Echo staff photo by Jace Poncer

Hancock County Recovery Update

Red cross services are available beginning at 9 a.m. at Sav-a-Center.

The Diamondhead Distribution Center is now closed. The Diamondhead Super Market, 4402 Aloha Drive in Diamondhead, is now open for business.

Emergency Disaster Food Stamps are now available at the Bay St. Louis branch of the Hancock County Library, 312 Hwy. 90, from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Applications must be filled out to qualify. Note: People already receiving food stamps are not eligible to receive emergency disaster food stamps.

Funding is available on a national and state level to assist artists, art museums and art businesses in need. Contact Gwen Impson, president of THE ARTS-HANCOCK COUNTY, at 228-263-6530.

Property owners: New standards for flood regulations are being considered. Protect yourself and check with the county or city you live in for new permitting regulations before beginning restoration of your property.

Postal services are now available at:

- Bay St. Louis - 1200 Hwy. 90, Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Kiln - 16250 Hwy. 603, Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and on Sat., 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Pearlinton and Waveland - post office box customers can receive mail at their own personal boxes at the Bay St. Louis Post Office.

Points of Distribution (PODs) for food, water, ice and other essentials are located at:

- American Legion Post 58
- Bayou Talla Church
- Gulfview Elementary
- Sava-a-Center

FEMA's Disaster Recovery Center and the Small Business Association providing home and business loans and advice are located in the Kmart lot.

Transportation is available by bus to Kmart. To schedule a bus for your group, call the EOC Transportation Desk at 228-466-8212.

Medical service is available at:

- North Carolina Medical 24 hours, seven days a week at Kmart, intersection of Hwy. 90 and 603.
- The Old Train Depot, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the corner of Booker and Depot Way in Bay St. Louis.

For oxygen refills, call LINCARE at 228-861-3858; 228-861-1049, or 228-437-1049.

Gulf Coast Home Care is open to serve patients.

Call 1-800-489-1307.

Shelters are located at:

- Hancock North Central Elementary
- Second Street Elementary
- Charles B. Murphy Elementary
- Hancock Senior Center

Phone Banks are available for free use at the following locations:

- Winn Dixie (Dunbar & Esplanade)
- Dolly's (Hwy. 603 & Kiln-DeLisle Rd.)
- Kiln Library on Hwy. 603
- Diamondhead Chevron
- Kmart on Hwy. 90
- Waveland Tire Town (342 Hwy. 90)
- 297 Hwy. 90, near Subway.

Countywide Restrictions:

- Curfew South of I-10 is in effect from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m.
- Curfew North of I-10 is in effect from 10 p.m.

to 6 a.m.

• A complete fire ban is in effect - natural gas is off. To report gas leaks, fires or life-threatening crises, call 911.

Customers of Coast Electric can report power outages by calling (800) 624-3348. Mississippi Power Customers can call (800) 487-3275 to report power outages.

If you suspect a hazardous materials threat, please notify the EOC at 228-466-8214.

The veterinary and pet recovery center has left its site in Waveland, at least temporarily. All the animals have been taken to Hattiesburg.

Safety Advice:

- Watch for vehicles stopping suddenly in front of you at intersections where signals are not working. Always treat them as four-way stops.
- Drive and walk carefully.

fully. Mud and water make roads and walkways slick.

• Look out for downed power lines and broken limbs hanging in trees - when those limbs fall, they can kill. Such hazards are called "widow-makers."

• When removing insulation, wear a face mask and place insulation in plastic bags to keep fiber glass from drifting. Exposure to fiber glass particles may cause carcinogenic or respiratory health hazards.

• If you remove your face mask to take a break from working, clean it with 10 percent solution before using again.

• Don't forget to clean your hands prior to any activities coming in contact with your face such as eating and smoking.

• Cover traveling debris loads to keep trash and hazardous materials from escaping.

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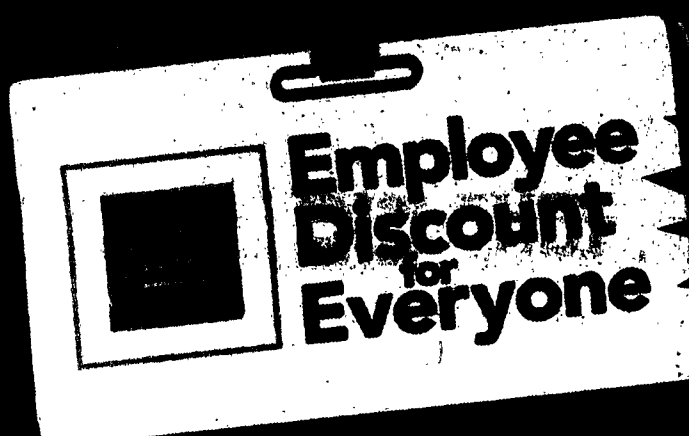
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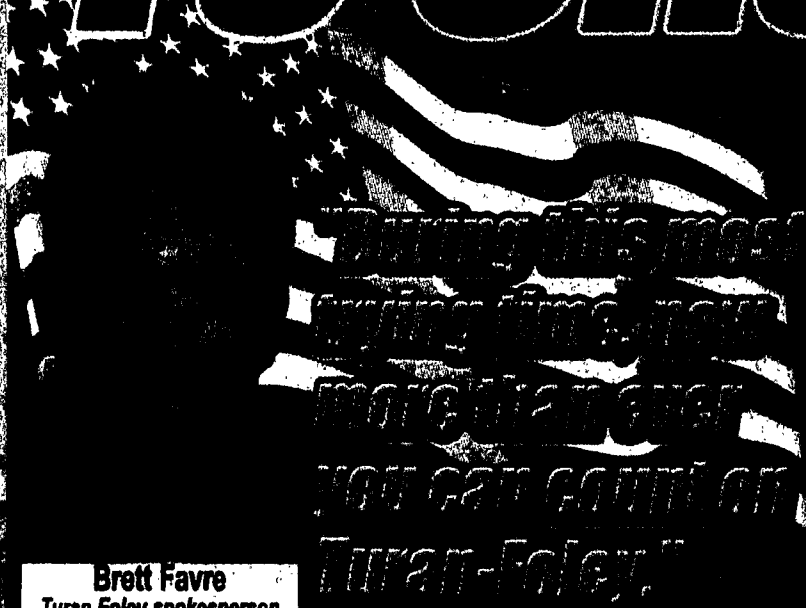
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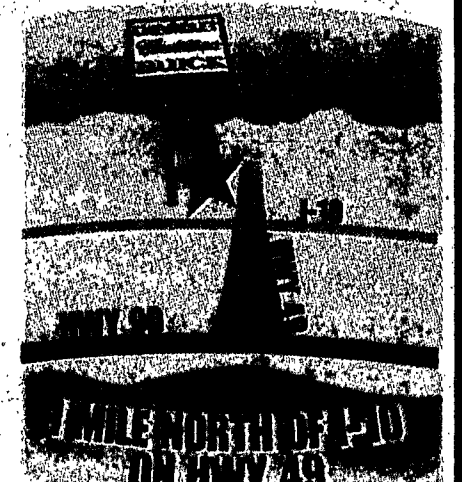
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